

WHAT'S ON

Solo Print Exhibition
 Title: The Soul of the Soil
 Artist: Farzana Rahman Bobby
 Venue: Gallery Shilpangan, Lalmatia
 Date: July 5-18
 Time: 3 pm - 8 pm

Musical Concert
 Title: Sunglow Musical Fest-1
 Venue: International Convention City
 Bashundhara, Hall 4
 Date: July 19
 Time: 6 pm onwards

Exhibition
 Title: Mukhoshor Aaraley
 Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi
 Date: July 12 - 14
 Time: 3 pm - 8 pm

Music and Art Festival
 Title: Soulfulment
 Venue: Jatra Biroti
 Date: July 12
 Time: 2 pm onwards

Poetry show
 Title: Poetry Night at 3rd Space
 Venue: Counter Culture Club, Dhanmondi
 Date: Today
 Time: 5 pm



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Nirob talks 'Abbas' and more

Nirob won the hearts of the masses with his laudable performances over the years. Apart from being a popular actor, he is also renowned in the fashion arena as a model. His latest film 'Abbas' was released recently and is running nationwide across 37 movie theatres. The Daily Star caught up with the actor to discuss his new film, aspirations and more.

SHAH ALAM SHAZI

How is 'Abbas' performing at the cinemas?
 It seems to be doing well. Especially given the fact that the release date of the film conflicted with one of Bangladesh's matches at the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019, along with the heavy rainfall across the nation. Despite the circumstances, the response from the audience has been rather positive.

Which movie theatres have you visited to witness the audience's response?
 I have been to Balaka and Modhumita here in the capital. I also went to Ranimahal in Demra and

Anarkali in Tongi, along with a few other halls. Wherever I visited, the presence of the audience was robust and they seemed to find Abbas rather entertaining.

Why, in your opinion, was the film well-received by the audience?
 I believe the reason behind the accomplishment is the intriguing plot of the film. Apart from that, the audience can see me in a completely different avatar in Abbas. My character wears a lungi, speaks in the Old Dhaka dialect and wears a handlebar moustache. The persona that the director intended, is what attracted the fans to enjoy my role and the film.

How challenging was the role for you in 'Abbas'?
 It was definitely challenging. Donning a lungi with style is no child's play! Add to that the jewellery along with the Dhakaiyya dialogues. But I enjoy challenges. Overall, it was exciting and I am glad that I was able to execute it with determination.

What are you currently busy with?
 At the moment, I am already shooting for the film Officer's Return, and I am scheduled to start working for Boshonto Bikel soon. Apart from those, my films Hridoy Jurey and Roudro Chhaya are on the last stage of the production process. I am also in talks regarding a few other films.

REMEMBERING Muhammad Jahangir

APORAJITA MUSTAFA

Prominent cultural activist, journalist and media personality, Muhammad Jahangir breathed his last at Asgar Ali Hospital in Dhaka yesterday, after an uphill battle with cancer for years. He was 68 years old at the time of his passing. He was the executive director of Centre for Development Communication and the coordinator of one of Bangladesh's leading dance companies, Nriyanchal.

Nriyanchal's journey began in the year 2000, as a three-way collaborative effort between dancer duo - Shibli Mohammad and Shamim Ara Nipa, along with Muhammad Jahangir. Since then, Muhammad Jahangir has played an instrumental role in advancing the company to the stage it has reached today.

"Jahangir Sir not only coordinated Nriyanchal's activities but also provided his valuable guidance in shaping every production that was undertaken by Nriyanchal in the past two decades," said Nur Alam Michael, the programme officer of Nriyanchal. "He was a constant driving force for us at the company and will be painfully missed by every member of the Nriyanchal family."

Muhammad Jahangir was Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus' younger brother. He was laid to rest at the Shaheed Buddhijibi graveyard in Mirpur, in the presence of friends, family and well-wishers yesterday evening.

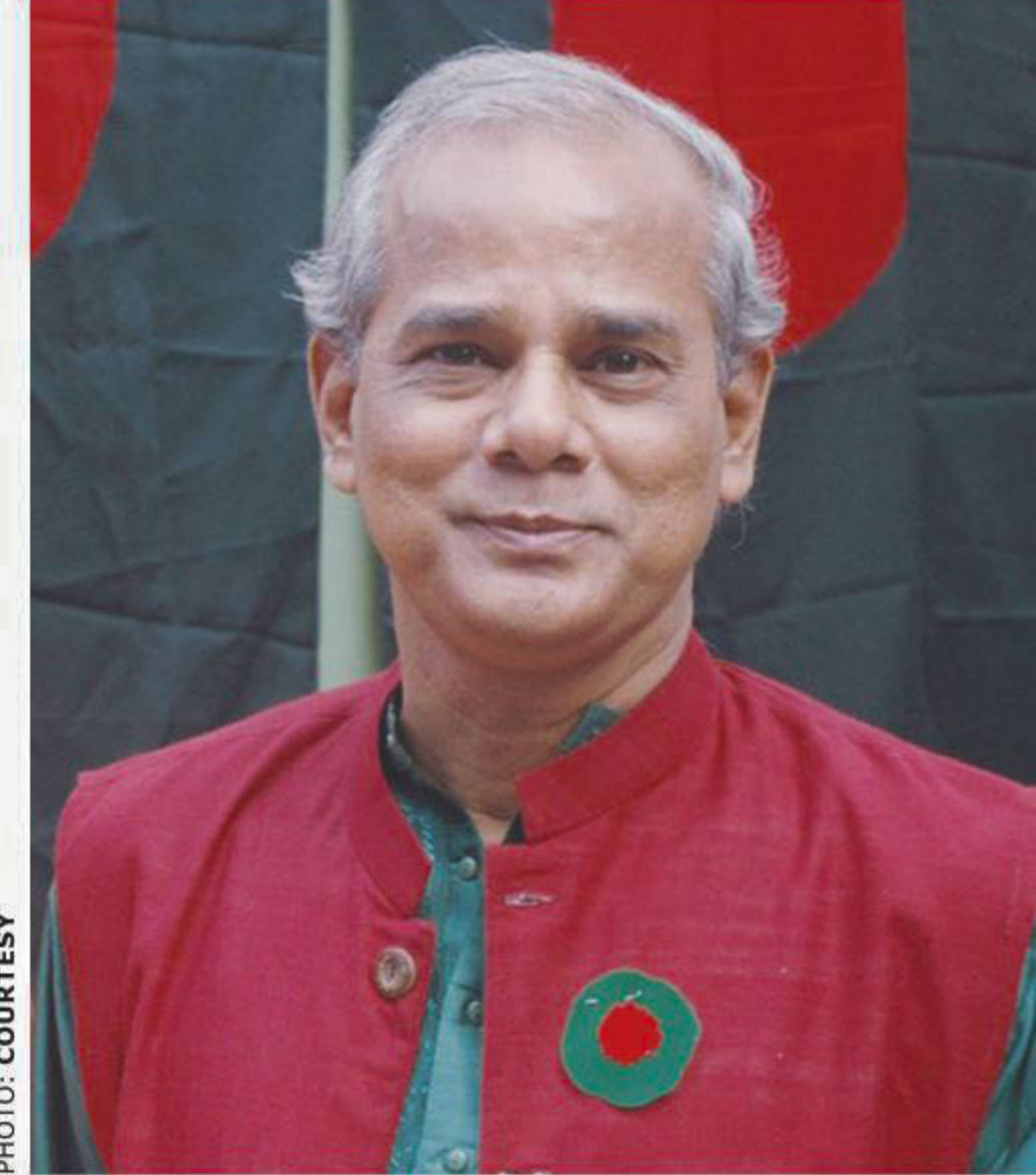


PHOTO: COURTESY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Purnima!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Purnima is one of Dhallywood's most talented and supremely successful actors. She began her career in films twenty years ago and has been the silver screen sweetheart ever since. The Bangladeshi movie-going audience encountered her for the first time in the film E Jibon Tomar Amar. She has acted in an abundance of blockbuster hits since then, including Moner Majhe Tumi, Hridoyer Kotah and

Ora Amake Bhalo Hote Dilo Na, among others. Purnima has also received many awards and accolades for her work in movies, including the National Film Award. She is currently working on two new movies, titled Jam and Gangchil, both directed by Nayeem Imtiaz Neyamul.

The Daily Star wishes the award-winning actor many happy returns of the day on the auspicious occasion of her birthday. Happy birthday, Purnima!



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Ustad Shahadat Hossein Khan and Dr Shyamal Kanti Chowdhury thrill audience in Bethnal Green



PHOTO: COURTESY

ANSAR AHMED ULLAH
 Tabla maestro Yousuf Ali Khan, featuring sarod virtuoso Shahadat Hossein Khan from Bangladesh, and singer Dr Shyamal Kanti Chowdhury with musicians from the Grand Union Orchestra performed at Rich Mix Centre on Bethnal Green Road in East London recently.

Ustad Shahadat Hossein Khan played a number of ragas on his sarod while Shyamal Kanti Chowdhury rendered a range of songs including Tagore classics and patriotic pieces. Ustad Shahadat Hossein Khan and Dr Shyamal Kanti Chowdhury were accompanied by Louise Elliot on flute and saxophone, Carlos Fuentes on percussion, Gerry Hunt on bass, Tony Hayes on piano and Yousuf Ali Khan on tabla, who directed the entire

event. Based in East London, Grand Union has been hosting the monthly musical event 'Bengal to Bethnal Green' at Rich Mix for over five years. It has featured popular Bengali artists in collaboration with Grand Union musicians from other musical traditions worldwide and is directed by internationally celebrated tabla maestro Yousuf Ali Khan.



PHOTO: COURTESY

A press conference was held on the premises of Duronto TV yesterday to announce the launch of their eighth season, scheduled to air from July 14. The new season will consist of six new programmes and two new cartoons in addition to the regular shows. The head of programme at Duronto TV, Mohammad Ali Haider, the executive director of 'Sisimpur', Mohammad Shah Alam, along with the executive producer Monowar Shahadat Darpan and the muppets from 'Sisimpur', were all present, amongst others, at the press conference.